

BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

October 6, 2011
8:30 a.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Room 1E-112

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard Englund, Jullie Gray, Beverly Heyden, Howard Katz, Hannah Kimball, Eileen Rasnack, Berta Seltzer, Cindy Sharek, Diana Thompson, Blake Werner

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeanne Grote, Merle Keeney, Bob Megargel, Bill Merriman, Lynne Robison

STAFF PRESENT: Cathy VonWald and Alex O'Reilly, Department of Parks & Community Services, Liz Krzyminski, Code Enforcement

OTHERS PRESENT: John Stokes, Bellevue City Council candidate; Alice Kalso, Evergreen Court; Lincoln VanderVeen, Representative Dave Reichert's office

RECORDING SECRETARY: Teri Ekstrom

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chair Rasnack who presided. All committee members were present with the exception of Jeanne Grote, Merle Keeney, Bob Megargel, Bill Merriman, and Lynne Robinson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. September 1, 2011

Mr. Englund had a question on page 4 of the minutes. It states in the minutes that Ms. Thompson said we could only give two Vials of Life per family. It has been discussed at the Outreach Committee meetings but was not determined as policy. If someone was to read the minutes it would imply that this is policy. There is also another question Mr. Englund had about whether our group can take donations. There was a motion to delete this statement in the minutes. The motion was seconded. The motion carried unanimously to strike this from the minutes. A motion was made to approve the minutes as amended and seconded. The motion to approve the minutes as amended passed unanimously.

2010 CENSUS – BELLEVUE DEMOGRAPHIC UPDATE [PRESENTATION]

Gwen Rousseau, Planner, City of Bellevue Planning & Community Development Department was introduced. She stated that she was at the Bellevue Network on Aging Meeting (BNOA) in April and reported the preliminary demographics information at that time. Since then she has received the 2010 Census information and American Community Survey (ACS) updates. The presentation today focused on older adults. The data collected helps us plan for services and helps us to reach out to citizens to meet their needs. Keep in mind that the 2010 Census is exact information and the ACS is a sample survey and results are estimate.

The current population of Bellevue is 123,400. The population has increased since the Census was done in 2010, in part because of the completion and occupation of Avalon Towers in downtown Bellevue.

The fastest growing age group between 2000 and 2010 was the 45 to 64 year olds (18% increase). The 65 and older group grew also by 16.1%. There was an 11.4% growth in the overall population. The 20-44 year old group has grown the most, the under 20 group has stayed the same, and the 65 and older group has increased. Of the 65 and older group, the 65-69 year olds make up the largest portion of Bellevue's older adult population (29%). People are living longer and the 80-84 year old group is increasing also. The number of people 85 years and over increased by 67 percent over the last decade.

In 1990 14.7% of Bellevue's population were of a minority race or ethnicity, in 2000 28.3% and in 2010 40.8%. The Crossroads and Factoria areas have the largest population of minorities. In the under 18 year old age group the minorities make up the majority. In the older adult population there is 17% that are minorities. The minority population is much younger . . . race and ethnic diversity increases with a decrease in age. In 2010, Asians comprised 27.5% of Bellevue's population, the highest percentage for any city in the state of Washington. The Asian population includes, Chinese, Asian Indian, Korean, Japanese, Vietnamese, Filipino, etc. There is a large diversity of Asians. Of the Asian population, Chinese makes up the largest population. The Asian Indian population has increased dramatically as well.

In 2010, the median age for those who lived in the same house 1 year ago was over 40 in contrast to the median age being under 30 for those that had moved. The older adult population is less mobile. In 2005-2009, Bellevue had the 2nd highest number and 16th highest percentage of foreign born residents out of Washington State's 281 incorporated cities. Older adults had the second lowest percentage of foreign born residents after those under 18.

A higher proportion of older adults spoke English at home than any other age group (79%). Of the older adults that speak Spanish at home, most speak English very well. Of the older adults that speak an Asian language, most do not speak English very well.

Of the veterans in Bellevue, 54% are older adults and 32% are over 75 years old. About 31 percent of older adults had one or more disabilities in 2010. Of those older adults, females had a higher percentage of every type of disability. In 2010, about 99% of older adults had health

insurance coverage. A large part of the older adult population had a combination of both private and public health insurance.

The top 20% of Bellevue's households comprise about 49% of Bellevue's aggregate income. The top 5% account for 22% of Bellevue's aggregate income. A much smaller percentage of Bellevue's older adult households make \$75,000 or more than make less than \$75,000. In 2010, older adults had the lowest estimated median household income of any age group, at \$50,270. Older adult males had the lowest poverty rate in 2010 compared to other age and gender groups. The downtown area had the highest percentage of older adults in poverty, yet Sammamish/East lake Hills had the largest number. Mr. Katz asked if they have a number of homeless older adults. Ms. Rousseau said that only one was reported but that she would look into it and get back to him. Ms. O'Reilly stated that in the women's shelter in Bellevue, over half of the clients are 50 years old and older. In the men's shelter about one-third of the men are 55 or older.

Of the household types in Bellevue, the largest group is married couples without children, but this group has steadily grown smaller since 1990. The older adult households have less diversity in household types than other age groups with 40% being single person households. In 2010, home ownership rose until age 75 and then it began to decline. The large majority of older adults in Bellevue live in single family unit structures, followed by structures with 50 or more units. Just over 3% of older adults in Bellevue lived in group quarters in 2010.

If you have any questions or would like further information, feel free to contact me.

BREAK

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Housing (reported by Cathy VonWald)

The Housing Committee is revisiting their goals for the year. They discussed visiting the Senior City Apartments in Federal Way, which they heard was a great model for senior housing. They will be going on November 1 10:30-2:00. Mr. Englund stated that the new housing complex called Andrew's Glen is open and half of the units are reserved for veterans and the other half to families. Ms. O'Reilly stated that Andrew's Glen had a Grand Opening that she attended and that the units reserved for veterans were already filled. Ms. Thompson stated that she and Lynne Robinson gave a presentation regarding senior housing and used the ARCH senior housing website. They actually used the computer for the presentation and it worked well.

B. Outreach (Hannah Kimball reporting)

The Outreach Committee had a special meeting on September 19th with people from Evergreen Hospital, Overlake Hospital, Group Health Hospital and Senior Services. Six (6) Bellevue Network on Aging (BNOA) members attended the meeting. Ms. VonWald started with an overview of BNOA and then each person reported for their organization. They all stated that the largest need they see is constrained resources. Senior Services has a Gatekeeper program and they are thinking about not only changing the name of the program but also changing the program itself into a more relevant program for the community. The committee also learned that

King County EMS is starting a pilot program with the Woodinville and Redmond Fire Departments to address the issue of older adults and non-emergency calls to 911. Ms. VonWald spoke with Battalion Chief Marty LaFave, who BNOA has been working with on this issue, and told him about the program. He is aware of the program and said that he will be in touch with them to hopefully move the program to Bellevue. The program has a grant and they will train non-department personnel who go out and train groups and show them resources.

Mr. Katz stated that he heard that Providence and Swedish Hospitals are merging. He was wondering how this will affect the community and older adults. Ms. Sharek and Ms. Gray both indicated that they didn't think it would affect the community because both hospitals have very strong services in the community.

C. Advocacy (Diana Thompson reporting)

The Advocacy group is currently involved with the planning of the November 2nd Legislative Forum. Reminder – November 2nd is the Legislative Forum here at Bellevue City Hall from 4:00-6:00 in Conference Room 1E-108. You should've received an outlook invitation from Ms. VonWald. Please respond because an exact count is needed for the event.

We have adopted a 2012 Legislative agenda. The 2012 Legislative goal is to support the most vulnerable in our community:

- 1) Provide support services that enable adults to stay in their homes
- 2) Protect older adults from abuse and neglect
- 3) Maintain medical services for older adults.

A motion to approve this Legislative agenda was made and seconded. All members voted to approve.

Ms. Thompson said that there is a possible 1.4 billion dollar shortfall in the State budget. The Governor has asked state agencies to submit proposals for reducing spending. These proposals will form the framework for the budget proposal that state lawmakers will consider in a Special Session beginning November 28, 2011. Services could be eliminated for the following people: 11,700 people would lose homecare assistance, 1,000 people who live in Adult Family Homes, 2,700 people living in assisted living facilities, 1,000 people living in boarding homes, and 450 people living in nursing homes. In addition to these cuts, 1,000 people would be impacted by the elimination of Adult Day Health. Ms. VonWald said that they are looking at redefining who is eligible for Medicaid. They will be looking at each person individually to see who would have the ability to provide for themselves. Every person will be assessed and they will be changing the criteria and have a new assessment. Washington State is rated 2nd in supporting our older adults, and it will be important to talk with our legislators so that these services continue. The Advocacy Committee members are calling the legislators to see who will be able to be at the Legislative Forum on November 2nd.

Mr. Katz asked how Evergreen Court will fare with the cuts and if they can survive. That is not known at this time.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP REPORTS

A. Transportation Update (Alex O'Reilly reporting)

BNOA members and Alex O'Reilly attended the Strategic Planning Meeting in August in Issaquah and will be working on the Work Plan items that came from that meeting. For example, the group will be working on the downtown circulator in Bellevue.

B. City of Bellevue Initiative

Ms. VonWald talked with Mike Katterman, Planning and Community Development Dept., in regard to the light rail hospital station design planning. She reiterated to him that the BNOA would like to be involved and assist with the design planning. He stated that other projects have put this project to the side currently but he will keep us posted and make sure we are involved when it is discussed.

C. Eastside Human Services Forum (reported by Alex O'Reilly)

The Forum will be working on their Legislative agenda at their meeting on October 19th. We will adopt the same agenda for the older adults but need to finalize the other areas of the agenda. On December 7th will be the EHSF Annual meeting that you are all invited to, so put it on your calendar. It will be held at Peter Kirk Community Center from 2:30-4:30. On the agenda is Paul Schumacher who is a social venture partner who works with agencies to talk about innovative programs and what they are looking to fund.

D. Eastside Time Bank (reported by Alex O'Reilly)

The next Time Bank potluck is on Thursday, October 13th at North Bellevue Community Center at 6:00.

OTHER BOARDS/COMMISSION REPORTS

Ms. VonWald said that Aging and Disability Services, which is the Area Agency On Aging for all of King County, will be accepting applications to serve on the Advisory Council. It would be great to have Eastside people involved to voice Eastside needs. It is a two year term and they meet once a month on the second Friday of the month. To apply for their position on the Council you need to go to <http://www.agingkingcounty.org/advisory-council/join.htm>. Ms. Seltzer said that this group handles all of the funds that come from the Federal government to serve the aging population in King County. It is fascinating and a very steep learning curve. But, it is very important for us to be involved.

STAFF REPORTS (reported by Ms. VonWald)

The Nominating Committee will be holding interviews on October 26th for the up to three positions available on the BNOA. After the interviews the member recommendations will be brought forward at the November meeting.

On October 13th is the Chinese Information and Service Center Annual Resource Fair. The BNOA will have a table and Lynn Robinson has already agreed to take the 12:00 – 3:00 shift. If you can help work at this event please let Ms. VonWald know.

The Home is Where the Heart Is Fair won't be happening this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Katz said that during the break he and Ms. Thompson spoke with Representative Reichert's Outreach Manager, Lincoln VanderVeen in regard to observation status. They gave him contacts to get information on this issue. He said that a year ago this issue was brought up to Representative Reichert and still nothing has been done in regard to it.

Ms. Thompson said she had talked with King County regarding the Ombudsman program. They were told that they were going to have a 30% cut. So they are currently short of funds.

Ms. Krzyminski, Code Enforcement, said that if we ever run across a person with a housing issue to call them. Code Enforcement regulates housing. They deal with hoarders and other housing maintenance issues. Let us know if you know of any people who need assistance.

Mr. Katz asked if we have any questions ready for next month when we have Attorney General Rob McKenna at our meeting. Ms. VonWald stated that he usually gives an overview of his Vulnerable Adult initiatives and questions stem from that. Ms. Thompson stated that she felt he was interested in services for older adults because the last time she saw him he talked about his mother and all of the wonderful services that really have helped their family.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

John Stokes stated that he is running for the Bellevue City Council. He is currently on the Parks & Community Services Board. He said he saw the presentation on Universal design and was very interested in this. He said that he is very involved in the community. He said that transportation is an important issue but there are some other issues that are very important also. He has worked with the Collective Impact Model through Eastside Pathways in which the community works together to make sure every child succeeds. He said he has a passion to support all ages.

Alice Kalso, Marketing Director of Evergreen Court, stated she had worked there for 1-1/2 years. Their occupancy is currently at 80% and at the end of the month it should be at 87%. There is a new management group and they are learning to work together and it is working well. Evergreen Court is working with King County to increase their number of Section 8 units. Some of the very low income people who currently live there may be able to switch to Section 8. We currently have 10 Medicaid apartments, 10 tax credit funding apartments, and 54 independent apartments.

UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

November – Rob McKenna

December – Year End Celebration

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30am.